



BLACKROD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL


ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1965

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BLACKROD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman:- Councillor T. Booth

Members:- Councillors W. Chadwick, C. C. Cutler,
J. Foster, J. Jolley J.P., J.K. Jolley, J. Marshall,
F. Makinson and L. Watkinson.

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Public Health Officer of the Authority

Medical Officer of Health

E. Taylor, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,
Divisional Health Office,
Leigh Road, LEIGH.

Telephone: Leigh 73227/8/9

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Public Health Inspector

J. F. Wood, M.A.P.H.I.

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Also Divisional Medical Officer,

Divisional Health Committee No. 11
Lancashire County Council

Divisional School Medical Officer

Lancashire County Council

PLANNED HEALTH INSURANCE COUNCIL

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman - Commissioner T. Egan

Members - Commissioners W. Chasick, E. G. Gaffar,
J. Foster, J. Jolley, J. K. Jolley, J. Marshall,
T. McKinnon and L. Winkelman.

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Public Health Officer of the authority

Medical Officer of Health

E. Taylor, M.B., Ch.B., D.F.R.,
Divisional Health Officer,
Laird Road, LEICESTER.

Telephone: Laird 7527/6/9

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Public Health Inspector

J. E. Wood, M.A., F.R.I.,

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Also Divisional Medical Officer,

Divisional Health Committee No. 11
Leicestershire County Council

Divisional School Medical Officer

Leicestershire County Council

Council Offices,

BLACKROD,

Mr. Chorley,

To the Chairman and Members of
the Blackrod Urban District Council.

Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting the annual report
on the health of the District for the year 1965.

The infant mortality rate is often taken as a realistic index of the well being of a community. A figure of 8.9 per 1,000 live births is a most satisfying one and could only be bettered by there being no infant deaths at all. Of course when dealing with such small actual numbers, rates of this type are liable to gross fluctuations, but this cannot detract from a very happy position.

The crude death rate was low and the adjusted rate which is comparable with the national rate is also better than average.

The introduction of a filtered water supply and an improvement in the sewage system and its disposal are both overdue, but are held up only by various legal and financial limitations.

I am much indebted to the help and co-operation I have received from my fellow Officers during the year and the understanding shown by yourselves.

Yours faithfully,

E. TAYLOR

Medical Officer of Health

SECTION A

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area in acres	2,392.4 acres
Population Census 1961	3,600
Population Estimated mid 1965	4,320
No. of inhabited dwellings at end of 1965	1,460
Rateable Value	£104,418
Sum represented by a penny rate	£410
Social conditions - No material change	

BIRTHS

	Total	Males	Females
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Live Births:

Legitimate	107	57	50
Illegitimate	5	3	2
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL	112	60	52
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Live birth rate per 1,000 15.9

Still Births:

Legitimate	2	Nil	2
Illegitimate	Nil	Nil	Nil
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL	2	Nil	2
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Still Birth rate per 1,000 total births 17.5

Total Births: 114. Males: 60. Females: 54.

DEATHS

Infant Deaths (under 1 year)	Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	Nil	Nil	Nil
Illegitimate	1	Nil	1
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	1	Nil	1
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

SECTION A

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area in acres	2,702.4 acres
Population Census 1901	5,800
Population Census 1911	4,320
No. of inhabited dwellings at end of 1911	1,480
Notable Value	£104,118
Men represented by a 1000 men	610
Social conditions	

SIXTH

Live Births:			
Legitimate	107	57	20
Illegitimate	2	2	2
	—	—	—
Deaths:			
Legitimate	60	60	20
Illegitimate	—	—	—
	—	—	—
Live Births rate per 1,000	15.2		
Still Births:			
Legitimate	2	2	2
Illegitimate	2	2	2
	—	—	—
TOTAL	2	2	2
Still Births rate per 1,000 total births	17.5		

Total Births 114, Deaths 60, Population 54.

SEVENTH

Infant Deaths (under 1 year)			
Legitimate	2	2	2
Illegitimate	2	2	2
	—	—	—
	2	2	2

INFANT MORTALITY RATES

Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births ..	8.9
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births ..	Nil
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births ..	8.9
Neo-natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births ..	Nil
Early neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births ..	Nil
Perinatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 total births ..	17.5
Mortality Rates per 1,000 estimated population :-	

Total (All forms)

Crude Rate	9.7
Adjusted Rate	12.5
Respiratory T.B. ..	Nil
Malignant Neoplasms, etc.	1.85

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1965	Males	Females	Total
Malignant Neoplasn - Lung, Bronchus	2	-	2
Malignant Neoplasn - Breast	-	1	1
Malignant Neoplasn - Uterus	-	2	2
Other Malignant & Lymphatic Neoplasms	1	2	3
Diabetes	-	1	1
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	3	6	9
Coronary Disease - Angina	1	1	2
Other Heart Disease	6	-	6
Other Circulatory Disease	2	4	6
Pneumonia	2	1	3
Bronchitis	4	1	5
Gastritis, Enteritis & Diarrhoea	-	1	1
Other Defined & Ill-defined Diseases	1	-	1
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total all causes	22	20	42
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Transferable deaths included in the above.

DEATH MORTALITY RATE

.. 8.7	Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births
.. 11.1	Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births
.. 8.8	Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births
.. 11.1	Non-accidental deaths per 1,000 live births
.. 11.1	Accidental deaths per 1,000 live births
.. 11.5	Perinatal mortality rate per 1,000 total births
	Mortality rate per 1,000 estimated population

Total (All Causes)

.. 9.7	Gross Rate
.. 11.5	Adjusted Rate
.. 11.1	Standardized Rate
.. 11.5	Estimated Population

Total	Perinatal	Infant	Causes of Infant Mortality
2	-	2	Malignant Neoplasms - Brain, Brainstem
1	1	-	Malignant Neoplasms - Breast
2	2	-	Malignant Neoplasms - Uterus
3	2	1	Other Malignant & Incurable Neoplasms
1	1	-	Maternal
3	2	1	Vascular Diseases of Nervous System
2	1	1	Coronary Disease - Myocardial
2	-	2	Other Heart Diseases
2	1	1	Other Circulatory Diseases
2	1	1	Fractures
2	1	1	Fractures
1	1	-	Contusions, Lacerations & Abrasions
1	-	1	Other Injuries & Ill-defined Injuries
42	20	22	Total all causes

Transposable deaths included in the above.

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

Ambulance Service

Tel. Swinton 4343

Care of Children - Children Act 1948

Children's Committee, Lancashire County Council

Area Children's Officer - Mr. K. R. Harding

Ashfield Park Drive, Standish. Tel. Standish 3147

Clinics

- ## 1. Ante Natal and Post Natal

164 New Street, Blackrod.

Thursdays 9-10 a.m. Friday 2-4 p.m.

2. Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Poliomyelitis and Small Pox Immunisation.

164 New Street, Blackrod

1st and 3rd Tuesday in month - 1.30 p.m. - 3.30 p.m.

- ### 3. Child Welfare

164 New Street, Blackrod.

Doctor Present

1st and 3rd Thursdays in month

2-4 p.m.

1st and 3rd Tuesday in month

1.30 p.m. to 3.30 p.m.

- #### 4. Ophthalmic

School Health Clinic, Jones Street, Horwich

Market Street, Westthoughton) appointment

- ## 5. Orthopaedic

School Health Clinic, Jones Street, Horwich

Market Street, Westhoughton } appointment

- ## 6. Tuberculosis Dispensary and Chest Clinic

Darley Street, Tarnworth.

- ## 7. Venereal Disease

- i) Civic Centre, Bolton

Males - Mon. to Fri. 9-30 to 12-30 p.m.

Mon., Wed., Fri. 4-30 to 7 p.m.

Females - Tues., Thurs., Sat. 9-30 to 11-30 a.m.

Mon., Wed., Fri. 4-30 to 7 p.m.

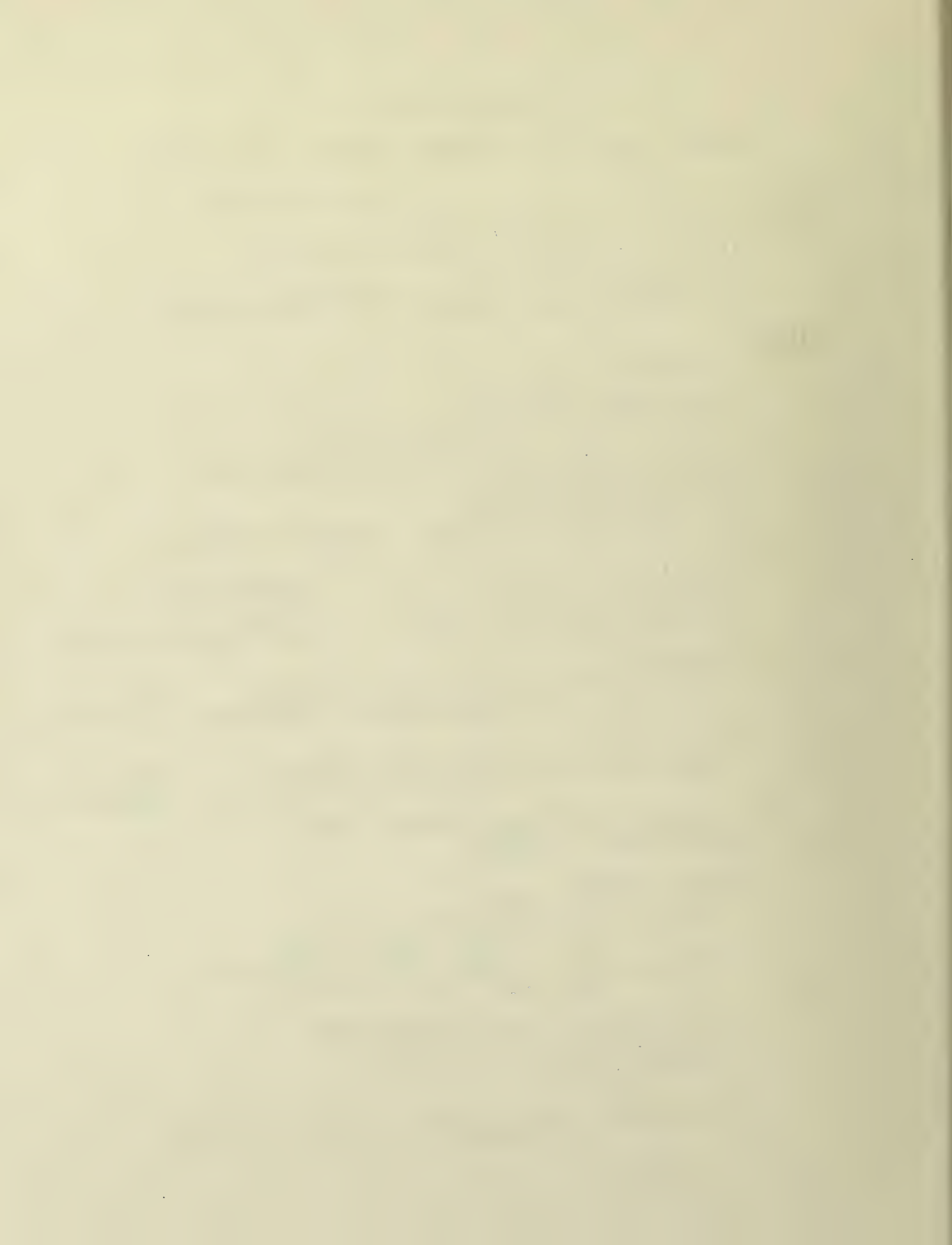
- ii) Royal Albert Edward Infirmary, Wigan

Males - Fri. 2-0 p.m. to 6-30 p.m.

Females - Wed. 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Urgent Cases : Mon. to Fri. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sats.

9 to 11-30 a.m., 4-30 p.m. to 7 p.m.



Convalescence.

Under arrangements made by Lancashire County Council.
Apply Divisional Health Office, Leigh Road, Leigh.

Convalescent Treatment.

Under arrangements made by the Regional Hospital Board.

Health Visiting Service.

Health Visitors/School Nurses are employed in the District
by Lancashire County Council.

Home Help Service

Under arrangements made by the Lancashire County Council.
Apply to Divisional Health Office, Leigh Road, Leigh.

Home Nursing Service

District Nurses are employed in the district by the
Lancashire County Council.

Hospitals.

Bolton Royal Infirmary; Bolton District General Hospital,
Farnworth; Royal Albert Edward Infirmary, Wigan; Chorley
and District General Hospital.

Laboratory Facilities

Regional Hospital Laboratories at Bolton and Wigan Infirmaries.

Maternity Homes

'Haslan,' 'Havercroft,' and 'Heaton Grange' Maternity Homes,
Bolton, Bolton District General Hospital and Billinge Hospital.

Midwifery Service

Domiciliary midwives employed by the Lancashire County Council
practice in the district.

Nursing Homes

Newlands Nursing Home, Bolton.
Christopher Nursing Home, Wigan.

Unmarried Mothers and Illegitimate Children

Provision for their care is made by the Lancashire County Council

Council for Moral Welfare Work.

Miss Rigby,
24 Acresfield,
Bolton. Tel: Bolton 26524

Welfare Services

Under arrangements made by Lancashire County Council.

Apply to Divisional Health Office, Leigh Road, Leigh.
Residential accommodation at Atherleigh Grange,
Hourigan House, Leigh, and Winifred Kettle House,
Westhoughton.

X - Ray Facilities.

Available at Bolton Royal Infirmary and the Wigan Infirmary.
Special facilities for Chest X-Ray at the Hospital Board's
Dispensaries and Chest Clinics.

S E C T I O N C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supply - The Urban District have their own water undertaking and the supply is obtained from a catchment area of some 170 acres of land owned and controlled by the Council.

The surface water and water from land springs is stored in a 20 million gallon impounding reservoir. The catchment area is mainly moorland in character and is situated in the Horwich Urban District.

The undertaking is adequate for the needs of the district at the present time, and bulk supplies are provided to the Adlington Urban District and to the Makerfield Water Board. All houses in the district are provided with water from public mains.

There were 19 samples of water taken for bacteriological examination. The result of these was as follows.

No. taken: 19 No. satisfactory: 19 No. unsatisfactory: Nil

Continuous chlorination is carried out to the water as it enters into the supply mains at the Council's Reservoir.

It was necessary to restrict the use of hose pipes and the washing of flags during the summer period to conserve supplies.

Drainage and Sewerage - An additional 67 new dwellings have been connected into the sewers and this has been the only extension to the sewer system. It is hoped that consent will be obtained shortly for the improvement and renewal of sewers and for the treatment of the effluent at the Horwich Urban District Works.

Public Cleansing - There are 1,725 refuse bins to be emptied each week, and a weekly collection has been maintained over the year with the exception of one week in July and September when the workmen had their annual holidays. Approximately 1,700 tons of domestic refuse was collected and disposed of.

Refuse bins for domestic properties are supplied by the Council as a charge on the rate fund.

The refuse is disposed of by tipping on low lying agricultural land which is being re-levelled and graded to adjoining field level.

One refuse collecting vehicle of a dual-up type, having a 12 cu. yd. body fitted is used for refuse collection and three loaders and one driver are regularly employed on this work.

Sanitary Inspections - During the year some 196 complaints relating to sanitary matters including refuse collection were received. Throughout the year, 610 premises were visited for all purposes, five informal notices being served and fourteen Statutory notices served.

Factories Acts 1937 to 1959 - In accordance with the provisions of Section 128 (3) of the Factories Act 1937, the Medical Officer of Health is required to report specifically on the administration of matters under Part 1 and 8 of this Act, which are administered by the District Council.

PART I OF THE ACT

INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health

Premises	Number on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	-	-	-	-
ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority.	7	7	1	-
iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority.	1	1	-	-
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	8	8	1	-
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Cases in which DEFECTS were found

See overleaf

Cases in which Defects were found

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remid- ied	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Want of cleanliness (S.1.)	Nil				
Overcrowding (S.2.)	Nil				
Unreasonable temperature (S.3.)	Nil				
Inadequate ventilation (S.4.)	Nil				
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.)	Nil				
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7.)	Nil				
a) Insufficient					
b) Unsuitable or defective					
c) Not separate for sexes.					
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work).	Nil				
Total	Nil				

PART VIII OF THE ACT

Shops - Shops were inspected under the shops Act and 26 inspections were carried out for this purpose.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963 - The following types of premises have been registered under the above Act.

Class of Premises	No. Registered	No. of Persons Employed	
		Male	Female
Offices	3	5	-
Retail Shops	10	4	22
Wholesale Departments	1	3	-
Catering Establishments	3	2	5
Canteens	-	-	-
Fuel Storage Premises	-	-	-
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TOTAL	17	14	27
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Sixteen premises have been visited and 16 inspections made for the purposes of the Act.

Smoke Abatement - Recordings of the measurement of smoke and sulphur dioxide have been taken over the year from a station set up at the Council Offices. The following table shows the average daily and the highest daily over the months for 1964. The measurements are in micro-grammes which are the small particles remaining suspended in the air and capable of being inhaled. The heavier particles generally fall to the ground.

1964	Smoke Particles		Sulphur Dioxide	
	Average	Highest Day Recorded	Average	Highest Day Recorded
January	287	793	295	926
February	237	553	204	457
March	-	413	-	533
April	No readings - Plant faulty			
May	-	284	-	421
June	52	121	66	155
July	29	68	43	122
August	40	93	77	233
September	63	151	119	318
October	-	371	-	573
November	217	639	262	1088
December	226	609	257	616

Several treatments at the Council's refuse tip have been carried out and the Council's sewers have also been treated.

S E C T I O N D

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk Supply - Twenty-five samples of milk have been taken and submitted for bacteriological examination, all samples were reported Negative for Tuberculosis.

Food Hygiene - All shops and food preparing premises have been visited during the year. General Conditions were found to be satisfactory and matters of detail on the Food Hygiene Regulations were discussed with the occupier of the premises and it was not found necessary to institute proceedings.

The following table shows the number and type selling food -

General Grocers and Provision Dealers	15
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	1
Fishmongers	1
Meat Shops	1
Bakers and Confectioners	-
Fried Fish Shops	2
Sweet Shops (including ice cream & minerals)	1
Licenced premises, Clubs, Cafes, Snack Bars, and similar catering establishments	13

Food Condemned - The following tinned meat was condemned as being unfit for human consumption -

Tinned corned beef	9 lbs.
Tinned Ham	20 lbs.

Food Poisoning - No cases of food poisoning were notified during the year.

Slaughterhouses - There are no slaughterhouses in use in the district, all carcass meat being slaughtered outside the District.

SECTION E

HOUSING

The Local Authority is not at the present time building houses and the small amount of slum clearance which is being undertaken, the tenants only being re-housed when houses become available due to existing tenants giving up their tenancies of Council Houses.

Private development is still maintaining a good building programme there being some 68 new dwellings completed and occupied during the year.

The general standard of housing in the district has now improved considerably, of the 1,460 dwellings in the district, 811 are of post war construction, 308 being new council dwellings and there has been some 213 unfit houses demolished.

The following shows in detail the work carried out during the year under review :-

a) Inspection of dwelling houses -

No. of houses inspected for defects	52
No. of inspections made	73
No. of dwellings in which defects were remedied	5

b) Slum Clearance -

No. of Demolition Orders made	9
No. of Unfit Houses Demolished	5
No. of Families Re-housed	6
No. of Unfit Houses Closed	4
No. of Unfit Houses made fit after determination of Closing Order	1

Improvement of older houses :- The following table shows the extent of this work during 1965 -

a) Improvement Grants.

No applications for Improvement Grants were received.

b) Standard Grants.

No. of applications received.		No. of applications approved.		No. of houses improved		Amenities Provided				
Owner occupier	Tenant	Owner occupier	Tenant	Owner occupier	tenant	Fixed Bath	Wash Hand Basin	Hot Water Supply	In-side W.C.	Food Store
10	1	8	1	9	1	9	9	9	10	10



Offensive Trades - There are no premises in the District in relation to an establishment where an offensive trade is carried out.

Common Lodging Houses - None registered.

Houses Let in Lodgings - None registered.

Swimming Baths and Pools - There are no public owned swimming pools in the district. One private owned swimming pool is now being used by children from two of the Junior Schools on one day per week. One sample of water has been taken from the pool and submitted for bacteriological analysis and was found to be satisfactory.

Disinfestation - Seven houses found to be infested by cockroaches were treated during the year. Disinfestation was carried out by spraying with D. D. T. having pybuthrin added and was found to be satisfactory.

Schools - There are three junior and one secondary modern school in the district and the sanitary accommodation is adequate to numbers for the schools. At the three junior schools the closet accommodation is detached from the school buildings and it is found during the winter months, the water supply to the flushing cistern is prone to freezing, owing to their exposed position.

At one of the junior schools, a new sanitary block is being built attached to the main building which will improve facilities and overcome the problem of frozen pipes.

Washing facilities are adequate at all the schools and meals for the school children are prepared outside the district and brought to the schools in insulated containers.

Rag flock and other filling Materials Act 1951 - No premises have been registered under the Act.

Rodent Control - Complaints of rodents have been investigated and treatment carried out at the following premises -

	Type of Property		
	Non. Agricultural Dwelling- Houses	Other	Agricultural
No. of properties inspected	34	20	15
No. of properties found to be infested by			
Rats	4	2	3
Mice	6	-	-
<hr/>			
No. of properties treated	10	2	3
<hr/>			

Alternative Transfer - There are no transfers in the District in relation to an establishment where an alternative transfer is desired.

Common Lodging Houses - None registered.

Houses let in lodgings - None registered.

Swimming Baths and Pools - There are no public or semi-public swimming pools in the District. One private owned swimming pool is now being used by children from two of the local schools on one day per week. One sample of water has been taken from the pool and submitted for bacteriological analysis and was found to be satisfactory.

Disinfectants - Seven houses found to be infested by vermin were treated during the year. Disinfectants were carried out by agreement with H. D. T. having Government order and was found to be satisfactory.

Schools - There are three Junior and one secondary modern school in the District and the sanitary accommodation is adequate for numbers. The schools, as the three Junior schools the sanitary accommodation is adequate from the school buildings and is found during the winter months. The water supply to the District is from a reservoir, owing to their exposed position.

At one of the Junior schools, a new sanitary block is being built attached to the main building which will improve facilities and overcome the problem of sewage disposal.

Washing facilities are adequate at all the schools and means for the school children are provided outside the District and brought to the schools in tankers as necessary.

San Block and other Public Buildings - At 1931 - No premises have been registered under the Act.

Public Places - The sanitary of public places have been investigated and reported on at the following premises -

No. of properties inspected	No. of properties found to be infested by	Type of property	
		Public	Other
24	2	20	4
1	0	1	0
10	0	9	1

